



# For The Rights of All: Ending Jim Crow In Alaska

## Credits

Producer/Director/Co-Writer  
Jeffry Lloyd Silverman

Writers  
Diane E. Benson  
Stevan M. Smith

Narrator  
Peter Coyote

Editor  
Stevan M. Smith

Cinematography  
Tom "TJ" Williams

## Character Interviews

Nora Marks Dauenhauer

Nora Marks Dauenhauer was born (1927) in Juneau, Alaska, and was raised in Juneau and Hoonah, as well as on the family fishing boat and in seasonal subsistence sites around Icy Straits, Glacier Bay, and Cape Spencer. Her first language is Tlingit; she began to learn English when entering school at the age of eight. She has a B.A. in Anthropology (Alaska Methodist University 1976) and is internationally recognized for her fieldwork, transcription, translation, and explication of Tlingit oral literature. Her creative writing has been widely published and anthologized. Her Raven plays have been performed in several venues internationally, including the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In 1980 she was named Humanist of the Year by the Alaska Humanities Forum. In 1989 she received an Alaska Governor's Award for the Arts, and in 1991 she was a winner of the Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Award. From 1983 to 1997 she was Principal Researcher in Language and Cultural Studies at Sealaska Heritage Foundation in Juneau. In December 2004 she received the 2005 Community Spirit Award from First People's Fund of Rapid City, SD.

She is married to Richard Dauenhauer, writer and former poet laureate of Alaska, with whom she has co-authored and co-edited several editions of Tlingit language and folklore material. She has 4 children, 13 grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren. She lives in Juneau, where she is semi-retired but still continues with research, writing, consulting, and volunteer work with schools and community.

## Byron Mallott

Byron is President/CEO of First Alaskans Institute, a non-profit policy center and think tank based in Anchorage, Alaska. Byron I. Mallott was born and raised in Yakutat, Alaska, the ancestral home of his mother's Tlingit Indian clan. Mr. Mallott has been active in both the public and private sectors in Alaska since 1965, when he was elected mayor of Yakutat at age 22. In various capacities, he has served every governor since statehood, including Governor William A. Egan, in whose cabinet he served as the first Commissioner of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs. Prior to his current post, Mr. Mallott served as Executive Director of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation from 1995 until January 2000. Additionally, he was appointed to the Fund's Board of Trustees in 1982 by Governor Hammond, and served a total of eight years as a trustee under three successive governors. He chaired the corporation for three terms.

Over a 20-year period (1972 - 1992), Mr. Mallott was variously a director, chairman, and president and chief executive officer of Sealaska Corporation, the largest of the 12 land-based regional corporations formed under the Alaska Native Clams Settlement Act. During his tenure, Sealaska established a shareholders' Permanent Fund and a corporate investment portfolio with total holdings in excess of \$100 million. Mr. Mallott served as a director of the Seattle Branch Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco for six years, and served in 1999 on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

## Diane E. Benson

Is Tlingit Indian originating from Sitka, Alaska and living in Chugiak. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, extended studies in Justice, studied at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles and has a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Creative Writing. As a Writer, Diane has numerous credits in various national and international anthologies including *American Indian Quarterly Review*, *Alaska Native Writers*, *Storytellers and Orators*, *Raven Tells Stories*, *Returning the Gift*, *Callaloo*, and *Umyuugwagka, My Mind My Consciousness (co-edited-England)*.

Diane E. Benson was nominated for the prestigious Alpert Award in the Arts in 2004 for theatre arts, and the Pushcart Prize for poetry in 2000. She continues to write, direct, perform original and sometimes controversial works, and frequently keynotes or facilitates public discussion on racism and other critical issues.